

Message Text

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ACTION NODS-00

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P 131544Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1089

S E C R E T BEIRUT 6190

NODIS/CHEROKEE

FOR SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, US, LE

SUBJECT: INVESTIGATION OF MELOY AND WARING MURDERERS

REF: BEIRUT 5944

1. IN MOST RECENT MEETING OF RSO WITH PLO SECURITY OFFICIAL (ABU JAAFER) JULY 12, PLO AGAIN EXPRESSED INTEREST IN DISCUSSING INVESTIGATION OF MELOY MURDERERS AND ASKED FOR OUR ASSISTANCE IN SHARING INFORMATION. PLO OFFICIAL OBVIOUSLY HAS MADE THIS CONDITION FOR PERMITTING US TO SEE EMBASSY LIMOUSINE WHICH IS IN PLO HANDS.
2. PLO SECURITY OFFICIAL SAID HE HAD HEARD THAT MEN FIRST ARRESTED WERE THOSE WHO HAD KIDNAPPED MELOY AND OTHERS BUT THAT SECOND GROUP, WHICH COMMITTED THE MURDERS, HAS SINCE BEEN ARRESTED. HE IMPLIED THAT THOUGH THERE WAS SOME CONNECTION BETWEEN THESE TWO GROUPS, THEY REPRESENTED DIFFERENT FACTIONS. HE STRESSED PLO'S GREAT INTEREST IN COMPLETING INVESTIGATION AND OF ITS DESIRE TO PUBLISH COMPLETE FACTS AND TO HOLD PRESS CONFERENCE TO PRESENT RESULTS OF THE INVESTIGATION.
3. SINCE AS FAR AS WE KNOW WE HAVE NO INFORMATION ON CASE WHICH WOULD ENLIGHTEN PLO, WE REALLY HAVE NOTHING TO OFFER. HOWEVER, WE COULD CONCEIVABLY INDICATE AS MUCH AND MEANWHILE TRY TO FIND OUT MORE REGARDING RESULTS OF PLO INVESTIGATION IN FURTHER DISCUSSIONS.

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